



SIFD NEWS

June 2001

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING
Internet Website: www.sifd.org

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The typing is done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting
is done by Dalila Heath.

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This month's cover is a collage of Caroline Thomas's earlier designs.
(Her first was in 1967!).

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CHAIRMAN: Mike Gilbert, 85 Fen Road, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1UN.
Tel: 01223 425648.

TREASURER: Judith Payling (Mrs.), Rosebank, 56 Quickley Lane, Chorleywood,
Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 5AF.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY & Alan Morton, 26 Durham Road, Harrow, Middx. HA1 4PG.
GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER: Tel: 020 8427 8042.

PUBLICITY OFFICER: George Sweetland, 28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New Road,
London SE5 0TQ. Tel: 020 7701 3785.

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

The Spanish and Portuguese Day Course with Steve Steventon and Janet Woolbar
on 12th May was very enjoyable, despite the warm weather. I feel that we all
went away at the end of the day with a sense of fulfilment and of grasping
the dances (maybe not to demonstration standard as yet) and it was all due to
Steve's and Janet's hard work.

Why not join us on Saturday, 9th June at Cecil Sharp House in Trefusis, 10.30
a.m. to 4.30 p.m., when Anne Leach and I will be revising the Russian and
Armenian dances which were taught at Eastbourne Festival by Hennie Konings
and Dalila Heath. £6.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £8.00 for non-members. If
you were unable to get to Eastbourne this year, this will be your chance
to learn the Russian and Armenian dances, and perhaps we can bring some of
them into our Sunday Night repertoire. See you there.

HELEN EZRA

--oOo--

MUSIC. Martin Butler kindly sent in the music for the three Branles on p.9.

PROSPECTIVE S.I.F.D. TEACHERS

We had an encouraging response to Helen Ezra's letter in the April SIFD NEWS regarding those interested in furthering their dance teaching skills. If anything, the possible participants are even more widely dispersed, so we are proposing the following arrangements to try to make participation practical but effective.

1. The course will be divided into modules. Candidates may choose to participate in all, or to select just those they feel relevant, e.g. experienced musicians may feel they do not need further advice on that subject.
2. Information on many subjects can be provided in note form and sent by post, allowing candidates to study at their convenience. At following practical sessions where a meeting is necessary, opportunity will be given to discuss and question these notes.
3. Opportunity for practical teaching practice and increasing repertoire will be provided. It should also be noted that at next year's Summer School at Durham it is intended to hold a general course aimed to assist teachers to build up a varied repertoire.
4. Assessment and certification will be available upon completing the course but members may choose to participate in the course without putting themselves forward for assessment at the end. We anticipate that external examiners will be invited to make the final assessments.
5. There will be a registration fee to cover expenses, but we will endeavour to keep the costs modest.

Members who have already expressed an interest in participating in the course will be informed individually when arrangements have been finalised. Anyone else who wishes to join, please contact Helen Ezra as requested in the April NEWS (at 84 Farm Road, Morden, Surrey SM4 6RB).

JANET WOOLBAR
On behalf of the Badge &
Day Course Committee

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LISA ULLMANN TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Fund offers grants to teachers and choreographers who wish to study dance in all its forms. This year there are 25 recipients including a community dance teacher who has received £490 to cover travelling costs to Bulgaria in order to research village and ensemble dance.

If any S.I.F.D. teachers are interested, they should write to The Secretary, LUTSF, 24 Cuppin Street, Chester CH1 2BN, for information. Application forms will be available after 1st September. Please quote S.I.F.D. and enclose A5 s.a.e.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL 2001

This is my opportunity to thank everyone who came and supported the festival this year. In spite of a very chilly gym, for the first time we actually had to use our "House Full" sign.

I know now how much Jill Bransby usually does over the weekend! I couldn't have managed without all the generous help from so many people. Without John Langdon and Roger Wicksteed we wouldn't have had a sound system, and John also minded the safety of the gym every lunch hour. Special thanks also go to Frances Horrocks who fetched and carried Hennie Konings to Gatwick, as well as acting as Chief Steward in the gym. Thanks also to Toni Gutman, Janet King, Lily Avery, Marina Wolstenholme and Maggie O'Regan who gave their time to steward for us.

Thanks too to Rowena Martin, who put up all the posters; we almost had a "surprise dance" at the start of the festival! And to John and Martin who hung the fairy lights (did they improve the ambience at night?) and to Helen Ezra and John, who returned the S.I.F.D. equipment to London.

Now a request from Jill and myself. We start planning for next year right away. Please let us have your suggestions for tutors, bands etc.

Again, very many thanks to everyone, especially for coping so cheerfully with the occasional lapses into "Balkan time". JULIE KORTH

JILL BRANSBY
Red Gables, Benslow Path,
The Avenue, Hitchin, Herts.
SG4 9RH

JULIE KORTH
Holly Cottage, off Wigan Rd.,
Aspull, Nr.Wigan WN2 1EF

Betty Harvey has sent in the following footnote to the letter she wrote last month about the strong influence Nationalism has had, apart from any notation, in keeping Polish Folk Dance alive:-

"Tony Latham has reminded me that the book we both have on dances from the Sacz region of Poland, by Lidia Michalikowa, is one of a series of seven, written in the 1970s, about folklore in different regions of Poland."

S.I.F.D. BOOKLETS AND CASSETTES. Remember that these are available from Eleanor Gordon, 70 Chestnut Grove, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3TS.

Group Leaders: Please tell your class members. If you haven't an order form, Eleanor will be happy to send one to you.

HELEN EZRA

All material for the July issue of SIFD NEWS must reach the Editor IN WRITING by 17th June. Please print in BLOCK CAPITALS all names of people, places and dances, unless typewritten.

BESKYDY IN LEAMINGTON

During the annual Czech Festival in Leamington, concerts and recitals abound but away from the classical what could be better than brilliant sun, Spring blossom and the Beskydy dancers and musicians to entertain a very good and appreciative gathering in the park, with the old Pump Room building as a backdrop? A lovely setting and an excellent programme so well tutored, led and encouraged by my old friend, Hedy Fromings. I hadn't warned her that I would be there - just as well, with the problems we had on the M40! - and her delight at a familiar face was lovely, for although we keep in touch we haven't met for some time.

The group has a varied and professional programme with an even balance of men and women (for once!). Their costumes were lovely in the May sunshine and a costume change during the programme provided even more variety. The fun and pathos of Czech culture shone through as well. How did we keep still? We didn't.... my feet were still "there" when their super female singer gave us A Ja Taka etc. Doudlebska, with some lovely simple variations in dance pattern, Tancuy-Tancuy and many other familiar favourites were on the programme and of course the musicians, all excellent, played on for quite a while afterwards. Their CD is well worth having, and it is playing as I write!

A beautiful day. Thank you, Hedy, and all the members of the Beskydy group.

SYBIL CHAPMAN

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S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH ANNUAL COTSWOLDS SAFARI

24TH JUNE 2001

The Safari will start at 11.00 a.m. at Moreton-in-Marsh. From there we move to Broadwell (just off the A429 between Moreton and Stow-on-the-Wold) where we have booked the village hall from noon to 2.00 p.m. After that we will be dancing at a new venue, Stanton Court, on the edge of the village of Stanton (off the B4632 South of Broadway). We shall be dancing there at 3.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. Only dancers in costume will be admitted free of charge, since the event is part of the village Open Gardens Day in aid of the National Gardens Scheme. Parking is about 100 yards beyond the hall along the Broadway road.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Like all outdoor events this year, opening of the gardens is dependent on no foot and mouth restrictions being imposed. Therefore, anyone intending to go straight to Stanton is advised to check first with either Maggie Kaye on 0121 608 1437 or Frank Harding on 0121 788 8510 during the previous week.

MAVIS LOWE

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LLANGOLLEN TICKETS FOR SALE

I still have one ticket each for the Friday (6th July) day session, when the children's dance competition is held, and for the evening concert. Front row seats, now half price - £6.00 each.

HILDA STURGE
10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol
BS9 4DU. Tel: 0117 9621802

THE GAYDA (MESHNITSA) BAGPIPE - BULGARIA

This is a wind pipe instrument composed of a hide bag and wooden parts, turned out of cornel, plum or apricot wood. The bag is made of goat hide with the fur turned inside. The sound pipe, "gaydunitsa", is attached to the neck of the hide. It is conical in shape both inside and out and has eight finger holes. It produces a diatonal major scale in the volume of one note and in combinations with the fingers, chromatic half-tones between the 5th and 6th and the 6th and 7th tones. Gaydas come in three keys: high, "djura", medium, and low "kaba".

A three-section bass pipe is attached to the left foreleg of the hide. It is called "ruchilo", drone, and has no holes. It is from 50m. to 60m. long and there is a reed whistle at its upper end, which is tied to the hide. This pipe produces only one tone. It is always at an interval of a duodecime lower than the basic tone of the "gaydunitsa" and provides a bass for the melody all the time. The bag is blown out through a mouthpiece tied to the right foreleg of the hide.

The bagpipe is a sonorous folk instrument and is used out in the open. The people say, "When you hear the bagpipe, you can tell where the wedding is". It is used as a solo instrument as well as together with other instruments - gadulka (rebek), kaval (pipe) and tupan (drum). The high tone bagpipes are used throughout the country. Only in the Rhodopes are low-pitch "kaba" bagpipes used, the basic tone of whose "gaydunitsa" is in "a" and the drone is in "E1" or "1" of the big octave. That is why these bagpipes are used to accompany songs.

MARIA KOUTEVA
PHILIP KOUTEV

Acknowledgement to the magazine "The Folklorist".



BALKANPLUS, 9th June at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1
7.00-10.30 p.m. £4.00. M.C.s: Nick Green and Liz Mellish. Nick and Liz have a wide and varied knowledge of dances from all over Europe and therefore can plan a wide and varied programme for the evening. Dances chosen will come from the usual Balkan countries and some from beyond, with perhaps a tune or two with live music.

FRANCES HORROCKS



YVES MOREAU WEEKEND, 15TH/16TH SEPTEMBER 2001

Yves will be teaching Bulgarian dances at Cecil Sharp House, as mentioned last month. Day Ticket: £12.00; Saturday evening party £8.00; all weekend £25.00. Reduced rates for Balkanplus season ticket holders.

Tickets are available from me at 53 Southway, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey SM5 4HP. Cheques payable to Balkanplus. Please enclose s.a.e. It is advisable to book soon as over half the tickets have already been sold for this very popular teacher.

FRANCES HORROCKS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July 1st/4th KLEZFEST. School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Workshops, lectures and concerts on music, dance and other folk arts. Teachers from the U.K., U.S.A. and E.Europe. For details contact Jewish Music Institute, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG. Tel: 020 7898 4308. Cost is £90 per day or £280 for all four days.

July 2nd/8th LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD. Enquiries to Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen LL20 8SW, North Wales.

S.I. July 6th BARNET SUMMER PARTY, 8.00 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. £4.00 (includes refreshments). Music by Dunav. Information from Brian Dowsett, 01992 582717.

S.I. July 14th PHILHELLENES GREEK DANCERS are dancing at Chichester Festivities, Market Cross, Chichester, 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Further information from Ariana Johnson, 020 8441 7029.

July 14th/21st FESTIVAL AT FINDHORN. See p.8.

S.I. July 21st PHILHELLENES GREEK DANCERS are dancing at Coram Fields Festival, London (time to be confirmed). Further information from Ariana Johnson, 020 8441 7029.

Aug.5th/10th ISRAEL FOLKDANCE INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOOL, "MACHOL EUROPA 2001" at Bedford. Guest teachers: Gadi Bitton, Shmulik Govari, Moshiko Halevy, Moshe Telem, Yaron Carmel. Details from IFDI, Balfour House, 741 High Road, London N12 0BQ.

Aug.10th/17th BROADSTAIRS FOLK WEEK. Mostly English but including Appalachian, Irish, Cajun and a group from Southern Africa. For information contact Broadstairs Folk Week, Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1JX. Tel: 01843 604080.

S.I. Aug.24th/27th MINI FESTIVAL at Roedean School, Brighton. Full board; mostly single rooms; swimming pool. £120 (deposit £20). THIS WEEKEND IS NOW FULL. WAITING LIST. Enquiries to Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 0PZ (with s.a.e. please).

Aug.25th/Sept.1st HF HOLIDAYS RESIDENTIAL WEEK IN HAYTOR, DEVON with Phil and Brenda Steventon. A course aimed at Beginner/Intermediate dancers; all dances will be walked through. To book, ring 020 8905 9558, or for further details contact Phil or Brenda on 020 8397 9649.

S.I. Sept.8th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

Sept.14th YVES MOREAU AT BARNET. Contact Brian Dowsett on 01992 582717.

Sept.15th/16th YVES MOREAU AT CECIL SHARP HOUSE. See p.6.

S.I. Oct.13th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

Nov.3rd/4th YUGOSLAVIAN DANCE WEEKEND at Bognor Regis. See p.8.

S.I. Nov.17th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

Dec.1st ZIVKO FIRFOV PARTY.

S.I. Dec.14th/16th S.I.F.D. WEEKEND AT DUNFORD. Contact Jack Richardson, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University, Swansea SA2 8PP. Tel: 01792 403153 (home), 01792 295194 (work).

YUGOSLAVIAN DANCE WEEKEND WITH PAJA & MADELON MILIC AT BOGNOR REGIS

3RD AND 4TH NOVEMBER 2001

Some of you already know Paja from Zetten or Bognor Regis, but for those who don't here are a few facts. Paja performed in a semi-professional group before he left the former Yugoslav Republic and emigrated to Holland. He married Madelon (a professional ballet dancer) and they performed Yugoslavian dances together. They joined Ciga and Ivon Despotovic and helped found the International Folkdance movement in Holland. Tineke, Jan Knoppers, Bianca, Hennie Konings, Jaap Leegwater and Ersin Seyhan are all ex-students of Paja.

Paja and Madelon will make their second trip to England in November. The cost for the weekend will be £32.00 (£30.00 if booked before 31st August). A Saturday evening meal with informal dancing will cost £10.00.

To book, contact me at Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 3EQ. Tel: 01243 265010.

JANET DOUGLAS



FESTIVAL OF SACRED DANCE, MUSIC AND SONG
14TH-21ST JULY AT THE FINDHORN FOUNDATION, SCOTLAND

The Findhorn community is the birthplace of what has come to be known as Circle Dance or Sacred Dance, which has its roots in the traditional folk dances of Europe. The Midsummer Festival aims to merge the best music, dance and song from both the folk dance and circle dance scenes, with a large international group of participants and an atmosphere of celebration.

The main teacher at this year's festival will be Laura Shannon, focusing on Balkan Rom dances to the exhilarating live accompaniment of "Xenos". Laura will also teach Armenian and Balkan dance, bringing attention to style and detail in each dance and the symbolic language encoded within them.

Australian-based band "Xenos" combine traditional and modern instruments, captivating rhythms, and haunting intertwined voices to create Balkan and Gypsy dance music which is both very much alive and in touch with its ancient roots. Twin vocalists, Anne and Lee, will also teach Balkan songs and singing style.

Other highlights include Peter Vallance teaching Greek and Pontic dance, Kate and Rory O'Connell with their resident band and choir workshops, and Bill Henderson's Scratch Band workshop in which he creates an orchestra (from scratch!) to play for dancing on the final Festival evening. Participants are welcome to bring an instrument and join in.

Enquiries and bookings to Findhorn Foundation, The Park, Findhorn, Forres IV36 3TZ. Tel: 01309 672288.

L'AURA SHANNON



Events covered by S.I.F.D. insurance and listed on pp. 7 and 10 are marked "S.I." in the margin. Please remember that the onus is on you to mark each event when sending in the notice if your event is covered by our insurance.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London, NW1
at 4.00pm on Sunday 3rd December 2000

Present: Mike Gilbert Acting Chairman
 Judith Payling Treasurer
 Caspar Cronk Committee Member
 Helen Ezra Committee Member
 Richard Mellish Committee Member
 Alan Morton Membership Secretary

And 19 other members

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from

Lily Avery	Dorien Bates	Jill & Peter Bransby
Sue Chetwynd	Sue Clark	Sheila & Joe Cott
Hedy Fromings	Diki & Sula Gleeson	Arlene Hansell
Peggy & Roy Haycock	Margaret Joyner	Christine Petts
Joy & Steve Steventon	Graham Styles	Alex & George Sweetland
Audrey Whiteley	Marina Wolstenholme	

2 Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the AGM held on 5th December 1999, which had been previously circulated to members, were accepted by the meeting as a true record of the proceedings at that meeting.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Teaching Fees (Minute 10.1 of 1999 AGM)

Janet Woolbar asked for clarification as to what fee was now being paid.

As published in the April 2000 SIFD News the payment made to SIFD teachers was increased to £20 per hour with effect from March 5th 2000.

3.2 Proxy/Postal Voting (Minute 10.3 of 1999 AGM)

It was pointed out that the motion on the current agenda (item 8) meets the committee's obligation arising from this minute.

4 Committee's Report

The Acting Chairman's report prepared by Mike Gilbert was distributed at the meeting.

Mike briefly summarised his report and suggested that we should make 2001 the 'Enthusiasm for Folk Dancing Year'.

Jack Richardson said that our main problem was our increasing average age and not, per se, our reducing membership.

Julie Korth remarked that the wealth of choice of leisure activities now available inevitably reduced attendance at any one activity.

Alan Morton asked what was happening in the Netherlands where International Folk Dancing seems always to have been well supported.

Roger Sturge pointed out that in the case of PE teachers we do have a market that is not purely recreational since the National Curriculum does include Folk Dance.

That the report be adopted was proposed by John Walford, seconded by Philip Lloyd and agreed unanimously by the meeting.

5 Treasurer's Report

The report for year ended 31st July 2000 had been circulated to members with the agenda for this meeting.

In response to the Treasurer's request for comments and for ideas for possible uses for the recently received legacy the following were mentioned: -

Bursaries for particular dance-related study
 Scholarships for students at our Summer Schools or other courses
 Outreach into Universities, Technical Colleges etc.

The adoption of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Fiona Howarth and seconded by Frances Horrocks and was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

6 Independent Examiner's Report and Consideration of Accounts

The Independent Examiner's Report and the Accounts had been circulated with the agenda for this meeting.

Roger Sturge commented that the Society must be vigilant as to our financial reserves pointing out that the 2000 Summer School was profitable by only a small margin. In fact it was just the sale of video recordings that made the difference between profit and loss.

Fiona Howarth asked if the Society's artefacts were sold at classes apart from hers and Philip Lloyd's.

That the accounts and the Independent Examiner's report be adopted was proposed by Roger Sturge and seconded by Helen Ezra and agreed unanimously by the meeting.

7 Appointment of Independent Examiner

The treasurer indicated that Denis McCarthy was willing to continue as Independent Examiner for the current financial year and proposed that he be so appointed. The meeting agreed unanimously.

8 Motion

The following motion was proposed by Judith Payling and seconded by Alan Morton:

That the Constitution of the Society be amended so that the Articles of Association parts B9 to B19 are changed as follows: -

1. *Part B9 is renumbered to become part B9(a)*
2. *The following is inserted and becomes part B9(b)*
 If the committee so determines the Agenda shall be accompanied by a Postal Voting Paper in respect of all motions on the Agenda.
3. *The following is inserted and becomes part B9(c)*
 The Postal Voting Paper shall take the form prescribed by the committee from time to time, and be returned to a person nominated by the committee by a date specified by the committee, duly completed, if votes thereon are to be counted. The Chairman's decision as to the validity of an incorrectly completed voting sheet shall be final.
4. *Part B10 is renumbered part B10(a) and the following inserted at its beginning*
 If the Postal Voting provisions have not been implemented....
5. *The following is inserted and becomes part B10(b)*
 If the Postal Voting provisions have been implemented a motion as it appears on the Agenda may not be amended.
6. *Part B14 is changed to read*
 If the Postal Voting provisions have been implemented
 (a) The General Meeting vote on each motion so covered shall be by a headcount of all members present and voting, to which shall be added the postal votes.
 (b) A member who has voted by post may change that vote by attendance in person at the General Meeting. The member shall declare his/her wish to withdraw the postal vote before the headcount commences.
 (c) A member who has voted by post and not withdrawn his/her postal vote may not vote in person at the General Meeting for any motion for which they have recorded, and not withdrawn, a postal vote.
7. *Parts B17 and B18 are removed*
8. *Part B15 is renumbered as part B17 and the following added as part B15*
 If no postal votes have been received in respect of a published motion, and in the case of any other motion or resolution to which postal voting provisions do not apply, the matter shall be decided by the meeting by a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of a show of hands) demanded by at least two members present. Unless a poll is so demanded, a declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the Minute Book of the Society shall, when signed by the Chairman at the next General Meeting, with the

approval of the members there present, be conclusive of the votes recorded in favour or against that resolution.

9. *Part B16 is renumbered par B18 and the following added as part B16*

On a poll demanded by members in General Meeting, votes must be given personally and not by proxy. Every member present shall have one vote.

10. *Part B19 is changed to read*

No member shall be entitled to vote by any method unless all monies presently payable by him/her have been paid.

The proposer explained to the meeting the significance of the motion which had been produced as instructed by last year's AGM. (See minute 10.3 of 1999 AGM minutes).

Mike Gilbert commented that a Society which is national rather than local *should* allow postal/proxy voting.

After some discussion it was pointed out that because the motion changed the Constitution amendments to it could not be accepted from the floor.

On being put to a vote the motion was carried unanimously but for one abstention.

9 Announcement of New Committee

Mike Gilbert has agreed to serve as Chairman. The position of Secretary is vacant. Judith Payling has agreed to continue as Treasurer. Caspar Cronk, Helen Ezra and Richard Mellish have all agreed to continue as Committee Members. Judy Ingram has resigned from the Committee.

Thus we have	Chairman	Mike Gilbert
	Secretary	Vacant
	Treasurer	Judith Payling
	Committee members	Caspar Cronk Helen Ezra Richard Mellish

Ex-officio members remain as before.

The meeting approved the appointment of the new committee.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Publicity

A discussion of many aspects of the Society's publicity activities took place. Speakers stressed the overriding importance of general SIFD *and* specific event advertising and urged that every member should do his or her bit in promotional matters.

10.2 Photographs

Alison Scrimshaw reported a good response to the appeal for photographs of groups, members and activities for the millennium album and thanked all contributors. Marshalling of the material is in progress.

10.3 Storage of SIFD Amplifying Equipment

Caspar Cronk reported that he had successfully negotiated space for the storage of our equipment at Cecil Sharp House. This will save a great deal of the effort that has been required in the past to transport and store this equipment and the meeting was appreciative of Caspar's work in this.

10.4 Certificate of Safety

It was suggested that if the Society's amplifying equipment is to be available for use by members and groups then it should perhaps be tested for safety and certified as safe. What is the legal position here? Also are safety checks a condition of our insurance?

10.5 Seating Arrangements at AGM

Mona Graham pointed out that while the number of members attending the AGM remained small then a semicircular seating arrangement would be practical as well as desirable.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.50pm